

Hampton Carpenter-Blacksmith Shop
537 1/2 St. Francis Road
Southeast of Hampton Overseer's House (Hampton Farm House)
North of Hampton National Historic Site
Towson
Baltimore County
Maryland

HABS No. MD-226-I

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PHOTOGRAPH
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D. C. 20240

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

HABS No. MD-226-I

HAMPTON CARPENTER-BLACKSMITH SHOP

Location: 537½ St. Francis Road, southeast of Hampton Overseer's House (Hampton Farm House), north of Hampton National Historic Site, Towson, Baltimore County, Maryland

Present Owner: Demolished in 1962

Statement of Significance: This outbuilding represented a structure built for a specific craft at Hampton, a small self-sufficient community.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners: The tract of land on which the Carpenter-Blacksmith Shop is built was acquired in 1745 by Colonel Charles Ridgely from Clement and Ann Hill. The 1500 acre tract, "Northampton," had been inherited by Ann Hill from her father, Henry Darnall, who had patented it in 1695. Captain Charles Ridgely, Colonel Ridgely's son, inherited the property in 1772 after his father's death. Captain Ridgely, for whom Hampton Mansion was built, died in 1790. In accordance with his will, nephew Charles Ridgely Carnan assumed title to much of the estate and the Ridgely name. On January 17, 1791, widow Rebecca Ridgely signed an agreement with Charles Carnan Ridgely to exchange a tract of land and a house for her rights, claims and interest to Hampton. The estate was inherited by Charles Carnan Ridgely's second son, John, in 1829, as his first son, Charles had died in 1819. After John's death in 1867, the estate was inherited by his son, Charles, who bequeathed it to his son, John, in 1872. The estate was left to John Ridgely, Jr. in 1938, who sold the mansion and an adjoining forty-two acres to the Avalon Foundation in 1946. After the completion of the sale, John Ridgely, Jr. and his wife moved to the Overseer's House (HABS No. MD-226-J) across Hampton Lane. John Ridgely, Jr. died in 1959 and his wife, Jane Rodney Ridgely, like all the past Ridgely wives, maintains

dower rights to the property. John Ridgely III, is executor. The Carpenter-Blacksmith Shop site was demolished along with the Cow Barn (HABS No. MD-226-H) in 1962.

2. Date of erection: Circa 1850
 3. Architect: Unknown
 4. Construction information: None known
 5. Alterations and additions: The original roof structure had been replaced by a shed roof structure.
 6. Important old views: A structure called the "Coal H." was located on the site of the Carpenter-Blacksmith Shop on the 1843 plat of the estate.
- B. Historic Events and Persons Connected with the Structure:
See the historical data for Hampton Mansion (HABS No. MD-226-A).
- C. Sources of Information:
1. Primary and unpublished sources: The Ridgely family papers are indexed by Avril J. M. Pedley in The Manuscript Collections of the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, 1968. Contained are eight collection numbers which list eighty-seven volumes and approximately thirty-five boxes of loose material.
 2. Secondary and published sources: None known

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

- A. General Statement:
1. Architectural character: This small, one-story, shed roofed building had two bays at each elevation except at the west which had three bays.
 2. Condition of the fabric: Demolished
- B. Description of Exterior:
1. Overall dimensions: The shop had a 34'-5" facade and a 24'-5" depth.
 2. Foundations: The foundations were stone masonry.

3. Wall construction, finish and color: The walls were constructed of random ashlar stone masonry with rubble stone backing. Flush stone quoining was used at the corners. The masonry openings had stone voussoirs set in flat arches. German siding sheathed the walls of the later roof addition.
 4. Structural system: The masonry bearing walls supported the roof structure.
 5. Porches: None
 6. Chimneys: A brick chimney for the forge was located approximately 10" from the interior of the south wall.
 7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The doorways were located at the east facade. The larger opening, for vehicular access, had a pair of board and batten doors hung in a plain wood frame. The smaller doorway, for pedestrian access, had a single leaf, board and batten door hung in a similar frame.
 - b. Windows and shutters: The window openings, with splayed interior window reveals, had modern six-over-six light sash.
 8. Roof:
 - a. Shape and covering: The later shed roof, with an apex above the east facade, had asphalt shingles.
 - b. Cornice and eaves: The upper and lower eaves of the shed roof had exposed rafter ends. The rakes had a plain, narrow board.
- C. Description of Interior:
1. Floor plan: The building had a single space.
 2. Stairways: None
 3. Flooring: Compacted earth
 4. Wall and ceiling finish: The walls were rubble stone masonry which extended to the height of the

roof structure walling sheathed with boarding. Exposed roof rafters and sheathing was at the ceiling.

5. Doorways and doors: None
 6. Special decorative features: None
 7. Hardware: The entrance doors had late nineteenth century strap iron hinges hung on pintles.
 8. Mechanical equipment: The forge survived in the building in a ruinous condition.
- D. Site and Surroundings: The Carpenter-Blacksmith Shop which faced east, was located south of the Cow Barn and north of Hampton Lane. A "Colonial" tract house was built on the site after the shop's demolition.

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was initially financed with funds from the "Mission 66" Program of the National Park Service under the direction of Charles E. Peterson, Supervising Architect, Historic Structures. Hampton Mansion was measured in 1958 by Student Assistant Architects Orville W. Carroll (University of Oregon), Harold A. Nelson (University of Michigan), and Trevor Nelson (M.I.T.), with Professor Lee H. Nelson (University of Illinois) as Project Supervisor. The complex was measured and drawn in 1959 by Student Assistant Architects Charles C. Boldrick (University of Notre Dame), Richard C. Mehring (University of Virginia) and Herbert L. Banks (University of Florida), with Professor F. Blair Reeves (University of Florida) as Project Supervisor.

The project was edited in 1972-73 by Rodd L. Wheaton, Architect, Historic American Buildings Survey, who prepared the historical data, edited and expanded the 1959 architectural data and recorded several structures which were previously unrecorded.